

Appln. 10/081,034
Office Action dated September 5, 2003
Response dated April 26, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-24, 28: canceled.

25. (Currently amended): A ~~multi-layer, composite panel~~ product of manufacture, comprising: a multi-layer, composite panel having constituents that include a layer of recycled or waste strips arranged side by side and two sheets of wood veneer ; and that sandwich the a sandwiched layer of recycled or waste strips, the strips being that is sandwiched between the two sheets of wood veneer, the recycled or waste material being selected from a group consisting of plastic, metal and tires and being joined to the two sheets of wood veneer; and chemical treatment agents applied to the two sheets of wood veneer to resist damage from fire.
26. (Currently amended): A panel product of ~~as in~~ claim 25, further comprising chemical treatment agents applied to at least one of the two sheets of wood veneer ~~and the strips that~~ to resist damage from fire, insects and water.
27. (Currently amended): A panel product of ~~as in~~ claim 25, further comprising ~~a further layer on one of the two sheets of wood veneer, the further layer~~ a further

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sheet of wood veneer and further strips of the recycled or waste material that are
being comprised of a different kind of the recycled or waste material than that of
the sandwiched layer, ~~a further sheet of wood veneer~~, the further strips layer
being joined to the one of the two sheets of wood veneer and to the further sheet
of wood veneer.

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28. (Canceled).
29. (Currently amended): A panel product of ~~as in~~ claim 25, wherein the
sandwiched layer is arranged so that the recycled or waste material forms air
channels between the two sheets of wood veneer that extend along an entire
length of the two sheets of wood veneer.
30. (Currently amended): A panel product of ~~as in~~ claim 25, wherein the
sandwiched layer is of a construction selected from a group consisting of straws,
air bubble cushioning, balls and bars.
31. (Currently amended): A panel product of ~~as in~~ claim 25, wherein the
sandwiched layer is of a length that is shorter than a length of the two sheets of
wood veneer.
32. (New): A product of claim 25, wherein the recycled or waste strips are
arranged to form air channels having the memory to resiliently return to an
original state after removal of distortion forces.

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33. (New): A product of claim 25, wherein the wood veneer is compounded sawdust bonded together.
34. (New): A product of claim 25, wherein the plastic is selected from a group consisting of recycled bottles, cans, carpets or rugs made of plastic or synthetic material, the metal is selected from a group consisting of recycled aluminum and tin cans, plates and foil, the tires are selected from a group consisting of recycled tire components and used tires.
35. (New): A product of claim 25, wherein the strips are of a type selected from a group consisting of straws, air bubble cushioning, balls, bars and sheets.
36. (New): A product of claim 27, wherein the strips of the constituents are of a type selected from a group consisting of straws, air bubble cushioning, balls, bars and sheets.
37. (New) A product of claim 36, wherein the further strips are of a different type than the strips of the constituents yet selected from the group consisting of straws, air bubble cushioning, balls, bars and sheets.

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38. (New) A product of claim 36, wherein the further strips are of a same type as that of the strips of the constituents and selected from the group consisting of straws, air bubble cushioning, balls, bars and sheets.
39. (New) A product of claim 25, further comprising additional layers of the recycled or waste strips and the wood veneer that are attached to the multi-layer, composite panel to form an integral unit to provide the integral unit with sufficient abrasion and mechanical resistance, insulation, flexibility, solidity, and memory properties to satisfy the specific requirements suited to a particular kind of construction that are not be met by the multi-layer composite panel alone without the additional layers.
40. (New) A product of claim 27, wherein the strips of the constituents and the further strips together provide sufficient abrasion and mechanical resistance, insulation, flexibility, solidity, and memory properties to satisfy the specific requirements suited to a particular kind of construction that are not be met by the strips of the constituents alone without the further layers.